

January 2026

Happy New Year!!

In January 2026, Southern Alberta is hosting a variety of theatre events, ranging from major Broadway musicals and classical opera to improvisational shows and comedy. Highlights include the multi-award-winning *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* in Calgary and Arthur Miller's classic play *Death of a Salesman* in Edmonton.

Here is a summary of notable theatre events:

Calgary

- *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* (January 6 - ~16, 2026): Winner of 10 Tony Awards, this dazzling musical can be seen at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.
- *Die Fledermaus* (Opens January 8, 2026): Alberta Vocal Arts presents this sparkling comedy opera in the original German with English dialogue at Contemporary Calgary.
- *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Opens January 9, 2026): A musical comedy based on the classic film about two con men competing on the French Riviera, showing at The PumpHouse Theatre.
- *The Last Five Years* (Opens January 1, 2026): Nightingale Arts Collective presents Jason Robert Brown's musical at cSPACE Marda Loop.
- *Dream Machine* (Opens January 15, 2026): A theatrical performance by One Yellow Rabbit Performance Theatre at the Big Secret Theatre.
- *The Impossible Light* (Opens January 15, 2026): A new production at the West Village Theatre.
- *Juliet - A Revenge Comedy* (Opens January 24, 2026): A theatrical performance at the Martha Cohen Theatre.
- *Hansel and Gretel* (Opens January 31, 2026): Calgary Opera presents this production featuring puppetry with design from The Old Trout Puppet Workshop, performed in English at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.

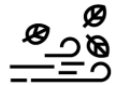
Lethbridge, Okotoks, and Claresholm

- *Golden Girls - The Laughs Continue* (Opens January 23, 2026): A performance related to the classic sitcom at the Yates Memorial Centre in Lethbridge.
- *The Great Gatsby* (Opens January 23, 2026): The Dewdney Players present a live 1940s radio broadcast adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel at the Old Church Theatre in Okotoks.



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- **Annie** (Opens January 8, 2026): A musical production about the optimistic orphan, with both standard and dinner theatre options available at the Claresholm Community Centre.

Other Events

- **Alberta Ballet**: Performances are scheduled in both Calgary (January 17) and Edmonton (January 24) at their respective Jubilee Auditoriums.
- **Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour** (Opens January 7, 2026): Screenings of mountain culture and adventure films will be held at the Red Deer Memorial Centre.



FUN FACT! The tradition of kissing at midnight on New Year's Eve is rooted in ancient superstitions that doing so brings good luck in love and relationships in the year ahead. The International Space Station crew celebrated the New Year in space for the first time in 2000!



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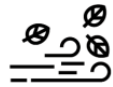
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The Cast and Crew are working “9 to 5”!



Windmill Theatre Players would like to send a huge thank you to everyone who auditioned for **9 to 5: The Musical**. Whether you clocked in for the first time or are a seasoned pro at punching the timecard, we were blown away by the talent, heart, and hustle you brought into the room. From bold choices that would make Violet, Doralee, and Judy proud, to performances with just the right amount of sass to rival Roz, every audition reminded us why this show is such a powerhouse. Y'all had us working harder than a copier jam on a Monday morning!

Now it's time to put on the coffee, sharpen the pencils, and get down to business! Windmill is thrilled to watch our incredible cast and crew roll up their sleeves and start staging this high-energy, big-hearted show. As rehearsals begin, we wish you all the best as you tumble outta bed and stumble to rehearsal, balance work, life, and dance breaks, and turn office frustrations into harmony, heart, and a whole lot of rhinestones. Break a leg, have a blast, and remember: when teamwork kicks in and the music starts, changes really can be made from 9 to 5. We can't wait to see this office run like a dream sequence come to life!

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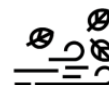
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WTP Production of 9 to 5 the Musical Cast List

Violet - Kelly Coray

Judy - Heather Anderson

Doralee - Morgan Wright

Mr. Hart - Benjamin Collins

Roz - Gemma Ukno

Maria - Halle Minkler

Kathy - Natalie McHenry

Margaret - Sheena Johnston

Joe - Austin Sillito

Dick - Jeremy Smith

Josh - Sydney Fox

Dwayne - John Stephen

Missy - Marnie Polege

Bob - Charlotte Bouck

Tinsworthy - Steve Penman

Ensemble - Nancy Barton, Rachel Walding, Jo Merritt, Jess Grovier, Kristi Leonhardt, Reika Ikebuchi, Sam Poudrier, Leanne Cole



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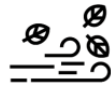
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Call for Volunteers – Join the 9 to 5 Team!

The Production Team is looking for a few awesome folks to help support our upcoming production of **9 to 5: The Musical**:

- Publicity / Advertising Lead – Help spread the word, promote the show, and make sure everyone knows it's time to clock in at the theatre.
- Concession Wrangler – Organize and run concessions during performances and keep things running smoothly for our front of house.

If you're interested in either role, please email gmoynham@shaw.ca

Our general volunteer site (ushers, front-of-house support, etc.) will be going live closer to the show dates, so stay tuned for more ways to get involved. We'd love to have you on the team!

A Note from the Executive



Eric Baxter - President
Gordi Moynham - Vice President
Tyson Walker - Treasurer
Pink Van Kessel - Secretary
Karalee Fox - Past President
Jamie Bartel - Director
Jennifer Campbell - Newsletter/Director
Brooklyn Stevenson - Director
Delsing Stevenson - Director
Karen Stevenson - Director

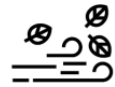
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The Executive Board helps keep our community theatre running smoothly behind the scenes. Made up of dedicated volunteers, the Board oversees the administrative and organizational side of the company—supporting productions, managing finances, setting policies, and helping guide the overall vision of the theatre. They work closely with directors, designers, and volunteers to ensure each show has the resources and support it needs, while also focusing on the long-term health and sustainability of the organization. Simply put, the Executive Board helps make it possible for the creative work onstage to happen. If you are interested in joining our monthly meetings - contact windmilltheaterplayers@gmail.com for a Zoom invitation!

Foothills Regional One Act Play Festival

This year, our friends in Oktoks (The Dewdney Players) will be hosting the annual Foothills Regional One Act Play Festival. The dates are tentatively booked for April 10 and 11, 2026. If you are interested in submitting a play, or would like more information, please contact windmilltheaterplayers@gmail.com



2026/2027 - Accepting Show Submissions!

Our Executive Board is currently accepting submissions of Show Proposals for the 2026/2027 Season - our 52nd SEASON!! If you are interested in submitting a proposal, please read through the “Main Stage Submission Process” on our website (under the “Contact Us” tab).

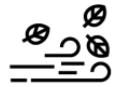
<https://www.windmilltheatreplayers.com/submission.php>

All submissions should be sent to Eric Baxter, WTP President (rickpinky@gmail.com), by Monday March 9 so they can be discussed at the March



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Executive meeting. 2026/27 season shows will be announced in the April 2026 newsletter.

In Memoriam

Long-time Windmillian Joan Onerheim passed away in Vulcan on November 28, 2025 at the age of 91.

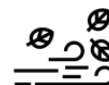
"Mom Joey" joined Windmill back in the early 1980s and while she enjoyed performing on stage (One Acts in particular), she helped with sets, hair, and make-up. Although her son Scott Wardley didn't join Windmill, she enjoyed sharing the stage with her children Daniel Onerheim, Jana Wager, and Lisa Wylie.





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We LOVE our Neighbours!



As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting local arts and community initiatives, WTP is pleased to confirm the renewal of our Venue Sponsorship for the 2026-27 season with our community theatre partner. WTP has contributed \$200 in Venue Sponsorship support, helping sustain live theatre and creative programming in the community. In recognition of this donation, WTP's logo will be featured on the Venue Community Fence, as well as on the theatre's website and social media platforms throughout the year. We're proud to continue supporting grassroots arts organizations that bring people together and enrich our local cultural landscape.

<https://www.thevenuehighriver.com/>

Calling All Theatre Lovers — We Want Your News!

The next edition of our **Windmill Theatre Players Newsletter - Passing the Wind** is coming soon, and we'd love to feature YOU!

Do you have:

- ✨ Updates from your committee or production team?
- 🎤 Behind-the-scenes stories or rehearsal photos?
- 🎨 Artwork, show posters, or design sneak peeks?
- 👥 Reflections from cast or crew members?
- 👏 Volunteer spotlights or "thank you" shoutouts?
- 📅 Upcoming events or calls for auditions?

If it's *theatre-related*, we want to hear about it! Our newsletter is a great way to celebrate everything happening in our vibrant community — and to keep our members, volunteers, and audiences connected.



Send your submissions to: jennifer.campbell@ffca-calgary.com



Deadline: February 12, 2026

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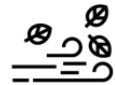
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Whether it's a short blurb, a full article, or a fun photo with a caption, we'd love to include it. Help us spread the love of live theatre — because around here, there's *no business like show business!*

Upcoming Dates

February 12 - February Newsletter Submissions Due and February Executive Board Meeting @7:00

March 12 - March Newsletter Submissions Due and March Executive Board Meeting @7:00

April 9 - April Newsletter Submissions Due and April Executive Board Meeting @7:00

April 17 - 19 and April 24 - 25 - "9 to 5" Production Dates

May 14 - May Newsletter Submissions Due and May Executive Board Meeting @7:00

June 11 - June Newsletter Submissions Due and June Executive Board Meeting @7:00

Windmill Annual Campout - August 13 - 16, 2026 (Tentatively: Wyndam-Carsland Group Site B)

AGM Tentatively Booked Sunday September 13 (11:00 - 1:00) - join us for breakfast and planning!

Happy Birthday to the one and only **Dolly Parton!** On **January 19**, Dolly turns **80!**

Be sure to check out our **social media pages**, where our **9 to 5** leads are sharing birthday wishes and a whole lot of love for the woman who taught us to pour ourselves a cup of ambition and lead with kindness, humour, and heart.

Happy Birthday, Dolly—thank you for the music, the wisdom, and the inspiration.



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